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Letter dated 18 March 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Spain to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to bring to your attention the conclusions of the Presidency of the European Council concerning Serbia and Montenegro (see annex). The Council met in Barcelona on 15 and 16 March 2002.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a Security Council document.

(*Signed*) Inocencio F. **Arias**
Permanent Representative of Spain
to the United Nations

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Annex to the letter dated 18 March 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Spain to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English, French and Spanish]

Conclusions of the Presidency of the European Council, Barcelona, 15 and 16 March 2002

Serbia and Montenegro

The European Council welcomes the agreement reached on 14 March in Belgrade between Serbian and Montenegrin leaders on the principle of a single constitutional arrangement for Serbia and Montenegro. It expresses its appreciation for the facilitation work of the Secretary-General and High Representative, Javier Solana, to this end. It considers this agreement that consolidates a state union a decisive element in the realization of the European perspective of Serbia and Montenegro, and an important contribution towards the stability of the region.

The European Council notes the commitment of both sides to achieve a common internal market including a common customs and trade policy. The European Union expects both Republics to contribute fully to the achievement of these objectives. The European Union is ready to support these efforts in the context of the stabilization and association process. The European Union will continue to offer advice and assistance and will monitor regularly the progress achieved. The Union further expects both Republics to work together in order to ensure the functioning of the common institutions.

The Union will under the stabilization and association process continue its economic assistance in conformity with its existing policy of conditionality. In determining the level and the beneficiaries of this assistance, the Union will take full account of progress achieved in each Republic, including the contribution of each Republic to the effective functioning of the common State and the achievement of European standards.